



American Studies

Courses for MEAS

Summer Term 2024

Office Hours Summer Term 2024

Name	Office Hours	Room PT	Tel: 943-
FAISST, Prof. Dr. Julia Interim Chair	Wed 9:00-10:00	3.2.73	3478
DEPKAT, Prof. Dr. Volker	Tue 14:00-15:00 Thurs 13:00-14:00	3.2.71	3476
HEBEL-BAURIDL, Dr. Birgit	Wed 12:00-13:00	3.2.85	3509
DEXL, Dr. Carmen	Thurs 9:00-10:00	3.2.70	3475
GOTTESWINTER, Lena	Tue 11-12 and by arrangement	3.2.83	3507
HEGER, Tamara	Tue 14:30-15:30 and by arrangement	3.2.86	3510
RÖDER, Katharina	By arrangement	3.2.83	3507
FRIEBEL, Antonia	Wed 15:00-16:00	3.2.88	3429
GEBAUER, Dr. Amy	Mon 12:00-14:00	3.3.88	3429
STETLER, Dr. Julia	Thurs 9:00-10:00 and by arrangement	3.2.88	1809
JONES, Prof. Dr. Jeannette Visiting Professor Leipniz ScienceCampus/REAF, University of Nebraska	tba	tba	tba

Registration for office hours is obligatory!
Please send an email to
vorname.nachame@ur.de to register
beforehand and make arrangements!

Amerikanistik (American Studies)

Lecture

35804 The American Revolution in the Age of Revolutions Depkat

Module: ENGYM-M32A.1 (4.0), AMST-M32.1 (4.0), AMST-M23.3 (4.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1(7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0).

Vorlesung, 2 SWS

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mi	wöch.	8:30	10:00	c.t.	17.04.2024	17.07.2024		H10	Depkat	

Two years from now, we will be celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, which laid the revolutionary basis for the American nation. Looked at it as an isolated American event, the American Revolution is the process that established the United States as a modern nation-state. Yet, the Declaration of Independence and all that came off it can also be put at the beginning of an Age of Revolution spanning the period from 1776 to 1850 that created the modern world. In the eyes of eminent scholars like R.R. Palmer, Jacques Godechot, and more recently Jonathan Israel, the American Revolution initiated a series of democratic revolutions in Europe, the Caribbean, and Latin America that continued the fight for individual freedom, self-government, and popular sovereignty against the old forces of monarchy, aristocracy, and religious authority. Other approaches drawing on continental, hemispheric, Atlantic, and imperial frames have moved away from the focus on 'democratic' revolutions and point to the many contradictory developments of the period that, after all, also witnessed the perpetuation of slavery, the consolidation of empires, and the formation of a modern conservatism born from the rejection of the radically liberal ideas of 1776 – both within and outside of the U.S. The lecture will introduce listeners to the major events and problems of the American Revolution and then approach it from several transnational angles to assess its place in the Age of Revolution. Readings: Alan Taylor, *American Revolutions: A Continental History* (New York: Norton, 2016). R. R. Palmer, *The Age of Democratic Revolution: A Political History of Europe and America, 1760–1800* (2 vols., Princeton: Princeton UP, 1959-1964). Wim Klooster, *Revolutions in the Atlantic World: A Comparative History* (New York: New York UP, 2009). C. A. Bayly, *The Birth of the Modern World, 1780-1914: Global Connections and Comparisons* (Malden, MA: Blackwell, 2004). Jonathan Israel, *The Expanding Blaze: How the American Revolution Ignited the World, 1775–1848* (Princeton: Princeton UP, 2017).

Credit requirement (for BA, LA): final exam on Wednesday, July 17, 2024; 8:00-10:00am; room H 24.

Credit requirement (for MEAS): final exam on Wednesday, July 17, 2024; 8:00-10:00am; room H 24.

Seminars in European American Studies

35840 “Enslavement and Resistance” (Topics in Spaces, Regions, Spheres, EAS-M3) Faisst

Module: EAS-M3.1 (8.0), EAS-M3.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mi	wöch.	16:00	18:00	c.t.	17.04.2024	17.07.2024		PT 1.0.2	Faisst	

Please note: The seminar starts in week two.

As the Black Lives Matter movement with its protests against systemic oppression of Black people, police brutality, and racism in the U.S. as well as transnationally demonstrates, the legacy of slavery continues to deeply impact race relations on a global scale. “If slavery persists as an issue in the

political life of black America," writes Saidiya Hartman in *Lose Your Mother: A Journey Along the Atlantic Slave Route* (2007), "it is not because of an antiquarian obsession with bygone days or the burden of a too-long memory, but because black lives are still imperiled and devalued by a racial calculus and a political arithmetic that were entrenched centuries ago. This is the afterlife of slavery—skewed life chances, limited access to health and education, premature death, incarceration, and impoverishment" (6).

In this course, we will investigate both the life and afterlife of enslavement and resistance in the U.S. and Germany. How did enslaved people write about their first-hand experiences of living under and escaping the 'peculiar institution' of slavery in their autobiographies? How did novelists imagine slavery after it got abolished but lived on in global systems of indentured servitude and sharecropping? And finally, how do contemporary photographers and filmmakers depict the trappings of various forms of enslavement and possibilities of resistance today?

Throughout, we will examine how cultural and socio-political spaces of power relations—such as the plantation, the prison, substandard housing, and public spaces—bear witness to transnational histories of enslavement. Ultimately, we will work to understand how social movements in the U.S. and in Germany draw upon the legacy of enslavement and resistance to stand up to the challenges of white supremacy and racially motivated violence today, and thereby participate in anti-racist endeavors on a global stage.

Credit requirement CSAAdv. (LA/BA): advanced academic writings in English (research paper of ca. 10 pp.).

Credit requirement HS LA/BA: advanced academic writings in English (ca. 15 pages).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program as of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.). Please also check the *Modulbeschreibung*:

(https://www.uni-regensburg.de/assets/language-literature-culture/american-studies/master/eas_master_ws1819.pdf). All course materials will be made available on GRIPS. For requirements in other programs, pls. consult the instructor.

35841 "Political Auto/Biography: Narratives, Forms, Functions" (Topics in Politics and Responsibilities, EAS-M5) Depkat

Module: EAS-M5.1 (8.0), EAS-M5.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Di	wöch.	16:00	18:00	c.t.	16.04.2024	16.07.2024		ZH6	Depkat	

Based on a selection of autobiographies by and biographies of American politicians, the seminar will approach these two modes of life writing as acts of meaning making and social communication through which social groups are negotiating who they are and who they want to be. In a series of close readings of political auto/biographies, we will interpret autobiographies and biographies as narratives between fact and fiction, discuss their status as both literary texts and historical sources, position them in the cultural traditions of American life writings, and assess their role and function as prisms of the past that are situated between memory and history. Above all, we will investigate the specifically political functions and effects of auto/biographical narratives.

Readings: Martina Wagner-Egelhaaf (ed.), *Handbook of. Autobiography/Autofiction* (3 vols., Boston: de Gruyter, 2018). Sidonie Smith and Julia Watson, *Reading Autobiography: A Guide for Interpreting Life Narratives* (2nd ed., Minneapolis: U of Minnesota P, 2010). Volker Depkat, "The Challenges of Biography: European-American Reflections," *Bulletin of the GHI* 55 (Fall 2014): 39-48. Volker Depkat, "Biographik im 21. Jahrhundert – Tendenzen und Debatten," *Handbuch Biographie: Methoden, Traditionen, Theorien*, ed. Christian Klein (2nd ed., Berlin: Metzler 2022), 383-

391.

Credit requirement CSAAdv. (LA/BA): advanced academic writings in English (research paper of ca. 10 pp.).

Credit requirement HS LA/BA: advanced academic writings in English (ca. 15 pages).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program as of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.). Please also check the *Modulbeschreibung*:

(https://www.uni-regensburg.de/assets/language-literature-culture/american-studies/master/eas_master_ws1819.pdf). All course materials will be made available on GRIPS. For requirements in other programs, pls. consult the instructor.

**35842 "The Power of (Not) Knowing: Systemic Racism and White Privilege" Hebel-Bauridl
(Topics in Politics and Responsibilities, EAS-M5)**

Module: EAS-M5.1 (8.0), EAS-M5.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Do	wöch.	14:00	16:00	c.t.	18.04.2024	18.07.2024		PT 1.0.2	Hebel-Bauridl	

This seminar deepens students' critical knowledge of theories and phenomena of White privilege and systemic racism. It discusses the historical contours and genealogies of racism, Whiteness, and White supremacy in America and the United States and introduces students to concepts from critical race theory, anti-racism studies, and critical whiteness studies. Zooming in on diverse issues, ranging from police brutality to colorblind racism to protest and activism, it analyzes a variety of materials, including political and activist expression, protest events, visuals, film, monuments, and music, and juxtaposes them with examples from and debates in Germany. Our critical discussion will be guided by questions of knowledge and knowing such as, for example: Who claims (not) to know about instances of privilege and racism? Whose testimonies and knowledge are (not) trusted by a mainstream public? How does in-depth knowledge of theories of privilege and racism enable us to address specific problems? And, last but not least, whose perspectives on racism and privilege were and/or are (not) taught or trusted in school and academia?

Requirements LA/BA: Course requirement: oral presentation, incl. presentation handout and/or PowerPoint presentation. Credit requirement: advanced academic writings in English (app. 10 pp. for CSAAdv.; 15 pp. for HS).

Requirements MEAS (WS 2018/19 ff.): oral presentation incl. presentation handout and/or PowerPoint presentation; research paper proposal (5 pp.).

Please note: MEAS modules require module examinations / papers; for details please check the module catalogs

https://www.uni-regensburg.de/studium/modulbeschreibungen/medien/master/eas_master_ws1819.pdf

For requirements in other programs, pls. consult the instructor.

All course materials will be announced in the first session and/or made available on GRIPS.

35843 “Staging the Posthuman: Bodies and Technology in Contemporary American Culture” (Topics in Spaces, Regions, Spheres, EAS-M3, EAS-M3) Dexl

Module: EAS-M3.1 (8.0), EAS-M3.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Do	wöch.	10:00	12:00	c.t.	18.04.2024	18.07.2024		ZH6	Dexl	

Figurations of posthuman bodies abound in – and beyond – the American cultural imagination. This includes, most prominently, the cyborg, defined in Donna Haraway's "Cyborg Manifesto" (1985) as a transgressive creature that signals a breaching of "the boundary between animal/human (organism) and machine" (69) and, by extension, "the boundary between physical and non-physical" (70). With scholarship now distinguishing mostly between the strands of 'transhumanist posthumanism' and 'posthumanist posthumanism,' the term of 'the posthuman' has gained plural and conflicting meanings (see, e.g., Hayles, Braidotti, Badmington) that we will extrapolate and discuss in the analysis of selected examples of dance, dance film, music videos, performance art, and interactive art. This includes Merce Cunningham's *Hand Drawn Spaces* (1998), and *Biped* (1999), Boston Dynamics' robot dance, and Stelarc's 'internet dance' *Ping Body* (1996); *ORA*, a collaborative project between choreographer José Navas and filmmaker Philippe Baylaucq; Janelle Monáe's *Metropolis: The Chase Suite* (2007) and *The ArchAndroid* (2010); Rachel Rosenthal's *filename: FUTUREFAX* (1992); and the installation *Genesis* (1999) as well as the *Time Capsule project* (1997) by Eduardo Kac.

We will explore how these artistic practices and embodied performances frame and stage intersections of technology and bodies in different ways and examine their implications for relations to and notions of time and space, ranging from concepts such as material space over constructions of communal space to the seemingly endless ether or cyberspace. We will discuss the cultural functions they fulfill beyond mere techno-utopian or -dystopian imaginings of the future. Rather, they add to current debates about 'biomedicalization' (Estes and Binney), especially as regards discourses of self-enhancement, longevity, and immortality; dynamics of global 'racial capitalism' (Robinson; Leroy and Jenkins); ecologism and environmentalism; and claims of human exceptionalism in the face of more-than-human worlds.

Credit requirement CSAdv. (LA/BA): advanced academic writings in English (research paper of ca. 10 pp.).

Credit requirement HS LA/BA: advanced academic writings in English (ca. 15 pages).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program as of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.). Please also check the module catalogs:

(https://www.uni-regensburg.de/assets/language-literature-culture/american-studies/master/eas_master_ws1819.pdf) All course materials will be made available on GRIPS. For requirements in other programs, pls. consult the instructor.

36080 “US Remakes of French Films” (Topics in Mobility and Cultural Transfers, EAS-M4) Depkat, Junkerjürgen

Module: EAS-M4.1 (8.0), EAS-M4.2 (8.0), EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0), AMST-M32.2 (5.0), AMST-M32.3 (7.0), ENGYM-M32A.2 (5.0), ENGYM-M32A.3 (7.0)

Seminar, SWS: 2, Max. Teilnehmer: 15

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Di	wöch.	10:00	12:00	c.t.	17.04.2024	17.07.2024		VG 2.45	Depkat, Junkerjürgen	

For a long time, remakes were seen as a mere business idea in times when the film industry ran out of ideas and subjects for new films. As a result, remakes were little recognized in research, let alone taken seriously. Cultural studies, however, have discovered the remake as a tried and tested

object of cultural comparison a long time ago to the effect that remakes have attracted a rising scholarly interest over the last twenty years. US remakes of French films, including classics such as *A bout de souffle* and hit comedies such as *Un éléphant ça trompe énormément* or *Trois hommes et un couffin*, play a particularly important role in this context. Pursuing a cultural studies approach, the seminar will analyze these and other examples in contrastive comparisons that will trace processes of cultural transfer and adaptation.

Readings: Carolyn A. Durham, *Double Takes. Culture and Gender in French Films and Their American Remakes* (Hanover: Uni. Press of New England, 1998). Rüdiger Heinze and Lucia Krämer (eds.), *Remakes and Remaking. Concepts – Media – Practices* (Bielefeld: transcript, 2015). Sandra Kühle, *Remakes: Amerikanische Versionen europäischer Filme* (Remscheid: Gardez! Verlag, 2006). Kathleen Loock and Constantine Verevis (eds.) *Film Remakes, Adaptations and Fan Productions: Remake/Remodel* (Basingstoke: Palgrave Macmillan, 2012).

Kathrin Oltmann, *Remake / Premake: Hollywoods romantischen Komödien und ihre Gender-Diskurse, 1930-1960* (Bielefeld: Transcript, 2007). Michael Schaudig, „Recycling für den Publikumsgeschmack? Das Remake: Bemerkungen zu einem filmhistorischen Phänomen.“ *Positionen deutscher Filmgeschichte. 100 Jahre Kinematographie: Strukturen, Diskurse, Kontexte.* Ed. Michael Schaudig (München: Diskurs-Film-Verl. 1996), 277–308.

Credit requirement CSAdv. (LA/BA): advanced academic writings in English (research paper of ca. 10 pp.).

Credit requirement HS LA/BA: advanced academic writings in English (ca. 15 pages).

Credit requirement master's program: prior to WS 2018/19: presentation and final research paper (ca. 15 pages for 8 CP or ca. 20 pages for 10 CP, depending on credit type); master's program as of WS 2018/19: presentation and proposal for a possible research paper (5 pp.). Please also check the *Modulbeschreibung*:

(https://www.uni-regensburg.de/assets/language-literature-culture/american-studies/master/eas_master_ws1819.pdf) All course materials will be made available on GRIPS. For requirements in other programs, pls. consult the instructor.

Kurse anderer Lehrstühle und Institute im Master-Programm MEAS (Courses Offered by Other Departments for our M.A. Program MEAS)

tba “Human Rights from US Independence to Today” Birke

Module: EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0)

Lecture

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Mi	wöch	10:00	12:00	c.t.				BA 825	Birke	

Course description: Please see online course catalog (SPUR).

36251 “Videogames Across Cultures” Ensslin

Module: EAS-M7.2 (7.0), EAS-M8.1 (7.0), EAS-M8.2 (7.0)

Lecture

Day	Rhyth.	von	bis	Zeit	Anfangsdatum	Enddatum	Gruppe	Raum	Lehrperson	Bemerkung
Do	wöch	10:00	12:00	c.t.				S 214	Ensslin	

Course description: Please see online course catalog (SPUR).